

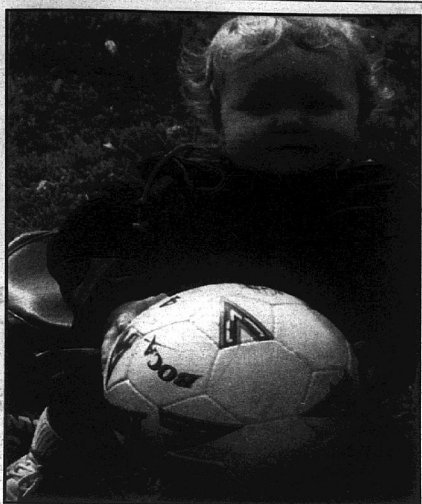
Granite City Press-Record

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(Staff photo by PHILIP WALKER)

Tiny fan — One-year-old Taylor Dittamore holds onto a soccer ball while watching her sister, Tasha, play a recent soccer match at the Quad-Cities Soccer Association's fields.

Custodian is a hero

Quick action credited with saving girl from car

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

An elementary school custodian credited with saving a 4th-grade student from being struck by a car April 21 will be honored at the Granite City School Board meeting tonight.

Harold Taylor, a custodian at Worthen Elementary School for the past two years, jumped in front of a speeding car to alert the driver, who apparently didn't see the child crossing Maryville Road.

The student, Kori Warren, was shaken but uninjured.

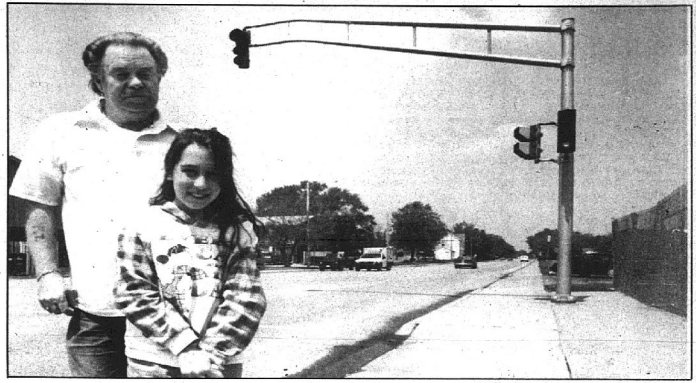
According to Principal Nancy Marti, school had been let out early that day, and Taylor was working as a crossing guard.

"I was taking the kids across the street," Taylor said. "I checked to make sure no traffic was coming."

"She was almost across the street when I saw this car coming full blast. I ran back across and tried to get the car stopped," he said. "It was really very close, too close for comfort. You couldn't get anybody between the student and the car."

After pulling Kori to the sidewalk, Taylor said they both "had a good cry."

Kori said she did not see the car coming until it slammed on the brakes.



(Staff photo by SCOTT COUSINS)

Worthen Elementary School custodian Harold Taylor and 4th-grade student Kori Warren at the Maryville Road crossing

"Other people said the car was only about a foot away and Mr. Taylor got between me and

the car," she said.

"I was scared," she said. "I was crying and they couldn't

understand what I was saying. I was hysterical." (See HERO, Page 6A)

Pontoon approves controversial permit

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A special use permit for the mobile home at Gateway Stables was approved by the Pontoon Beach Village Board Tuesday, but Mayor Glen Wilson vowed to veto it.

However, Trustee Mike Macek said the board would probably overturn the veto at the next board meeting.

The board voted 5-1 to grant a special use permit for Kelo "Kelly" Arnold for the trailer after an hour-long executive

session Tuesday evening. The trailer has been a focal point of controversy and legal actions since it arrived last summer.

Voting for the agreement were trustees Macek, Irene Karlechuk, Randy Presswood, Gus Falter and Bob Abel. Voting against it was Trustee Bob Vincent, the most vocal opponent of the trailer on the board.

After casting his vote, Vincent was applauded by most of the audience, and Wilson when he announced he would veto it.

Wilson said after the meeting that the veto would be formally announced at the next meeting, but acknowledged that it would probably be overturned.

Overturning a veto requires a two-thirds vote of the board. Wilson said he had no problem with the trailer, but said Arnold did not follow proper procedures to obtain the special use permit.

"She broke every ordinance we had," he said.

Arnold was in the process of obtaining a special use permit for the trailer when

it arrived ahead of schedule in July. Since then the village has been attempting to force the removal of the trailer, including filing a lawsuit against Arnold in September.

In December, the court ordered a zoning board hearing; the board approved the special use permit. However, the permit was turned down by the village board.

One of the reasons for the lengthy battle over the trailer is a long-standing feud between Arnold and Evelyn

(See PERMIT, Page 6A)

Emil Toffant is remembered

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

Emil Toffant once said that a bronze plaque that identified him as a member of the Illinois State Police would provide a fitting epitaph for him.

But friends and acquaintances who remembered him this week had many other positive descriptions of the long-time Madison resident.

Toffant was 14 years old in 1929 when his father died and he was forced to quit school and go to work to support his family.

Since that time, Toffant worked in a shoe factory, as a foreman at American Steel Foundries and as a baseball player and scout.

But Toffant will best be remembered as a law enforcement officer — with the city of Madison, as district commander of the state police and as Madison County sheriff.

Toffant, 90, of Madison, died Tuesday morning at Christian

(See TOFFANT, Page 6A)



Emil Toffant

Madison seeking help with buildings

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

Madison officials are hoping for a little assistance in repairing the city's recreation center, complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act and demolishing condemned buildings.

The city applied for Community Development Block Grant funding for the three projects this week. Madison is seeking \$75 to put a new roof on its recreation center; \$25,000 to install handicapped ramps at the intersections of Madison Avenue and Third, Sixth and 12th streets; and \$25,000 to demolish dangerous and unsafe buildings.

Madison County has about \$1 million in federal funds to dis-

tribute to municipalities (except Alton and Granite City) for qualifying projects. Of the \$1 million, \$800,000 is earmarked for infrastructure improvement projects and \$200,000 is set aside for ADA compliance.

The competition for the grant money can be fierce as most municipalities in the county apply for the funds each year.

John Hales of the engineering firm of Sheppard, Morgan and Schwaab told the Madison City Council Tuesday that the county utilizes a point system to prioritize the projects.

Because Madison has not yet spent CDBG funds granted last year to install an elevator in City Hall, the city will lose

(See MADISON, Page 6A)

Inside

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Bill Haine is back at work in Edwardsville after accident.. Page 2A.

75 years ago

May 11, 1920

A triangle park being created at 21st Street and Madison Avenue by the Granite City Commercial Club will be completed soon. J. W. Costley is supervising the work.

Deaths

Harold Hill
Vera LaRose
Leona Mitchell
Donald Trobaugh
Richard Lucas
Clarence White
Derrion Paulette
Leo Stockman
E. Mae Schuette
Emil Toffant

Search may yield fame

National TV crew follows Pontoon police

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

During a busy Friday evening, the Pontoon Beach police department recovered some stolen property, arrested a felon and got a shot at being on national television.

Detective Rick Hays said police were planning a possible drug raid early Friday evening when a state trooper came into the police station with a camera crew from "Real Stories of the Highway Patrol" in tow. The show is a Monday-through-Friday feature on the Fox Network; it airs at 11 p.m. on KIDNL, Channel 30, in St. Louis.

The trooper came along to assist the Pontoon Beach police, and the camera crew was allowed to tag along.

"The trooper brought a guy in on a warrant while we were planning the raid," Hays said. "It just kind of happened."

Hays said Friday night's actions are part of an ongoing investigation into drug and

stolen property crimes in the Village Green Trailer Park area.

He described the trailer court as a "drug haven" and destination for stolen property. Hays said part of the reason for Friday night's raid was to shake up the area.

"It's a very big target area for the summer," Hays said.

The police searched a mobile home in the 300 block of Village Green for drugs and stolen property about 8 p.m. After police obtained consent to search, Hays said the camera crew joined them inside the home.

No drugs were found, but stolen stereo equipment was recovered. Hays said no arrests were made at that time, but charges might be filed sometime in the future.

Later, police went to a neighboring home and arrested a man wanted for felony probation violation.

David C. Catterson, 46, of the 300 block of Village Green, was wanted on a warrant from Bond County for probation

violation DUI.

Hays said the Bond County Sheriff's Department had notified him of the outstanding warrant. He said Catterson had been out of jail for about four hours when he was re-arrested.

"He just happened to live four doors down (from the mobile home), so we figured when his light was on we would get him too."

Hays said Friday's action was not the only police activity planned for that neighborhood. "I told them we were coming back, and you never know where or when," he said.

Hays said he did not know when, or if, the footage from their operation would be on television.

Lt. Bill Reckman, patrol commander for Illinois State Police District 11, said camera crews from the show come down about two weekends per month to film in the area.

He said most of the time the crews ride with patrols in the East St. Louis area.



(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Garden lessons — Parent volunteer Jim Snelson, left, helps Chip Christiansen plant a Columbine during an afternoon of gardening at the Granite City School District's outdoor classroom. See Page 9A for more photos and story.

News in review

News in review provides a summary of some of the past week's stories. This column is designed for out-of-town readers who do not receive the Sunday and Wednesday Press-Record Journals.

Madison superintendent chosen

A Cahokia administrator with almost 14 years of experience in school finances has been picked to head the Madison School District.

The Madison school board approved hiring Gary Allison, 46, director of finance and operations for the Cahokia School District, by a 4-3 vote at a special meeting Monday evening. He will replace Ken Miller, who is stepping down June 30.

Voting for Allison were Board President John Hamm and board members Sharon Cass, Dannie Sipes and John Greco. Voting against were James Newsome, Wilbur Owens and Don Turner. Although the vote was along racial lines, Owens said race was not an issue.

3 injured in tavern shooting

Marlin Harris, 22, Venice, who has a prior conviction for unlawful possession of a stolen vehicle, was charged Monday with three counts of aggravated battery with a firearm and one count of possession of a firearm by a felon.

Three people were injured in the shooting, two seriously, which occurred at about 2:45 a.m. Saturday at the Robin's Nest Lounge, 113 Slough Road, authorities said.

Dorothy Weathers, 34, of the 800 block of Bissell, was treated and released at St. Elizabeth Medical Center with a gunshot wound to the right thigh.

Emil Toffant dies at 80

Madison County residents lost a good friend Tuesday morning in former Sheriff Emil Toffant.

Toffant, 80, of Madison, died Tuesday morning at Christian Hospital Northeast in St. Louis.

Toffant took over his first two terms as Madison County Sheriff in 1970, four years after retiring from a 31-year career as a state police officer and district commander. He was awarded 42 commendations during his state police service.

Venice considering garbage fee

The Venice City Council will consider a monthly garbage collection fee to pay for new city vehicles at its next meeting.

The proposed fee, between \$5 and \$10 per month, would be used to pay for garbage trucks and police cars. A new tax and higher vehicle sticker fees to pay for the vehicles were also discussed, but city officials appear to favor the garbage fee.

Freeze may delay tax bills

Processing of more than 9,000 applications for the new senior citizens tax assessment freeze may delay mailing of 1995 Madison County property tax bills by a month.

Property owners probably won't complain, but school districts and other taxing bodies that depend on tax revenues to pay obligations may be forced to borrow.

Drag strip project ready to go

The second phase of a three-part improvement program at Gateway International Raceway is about to leave the starting line.

Last week Korte Construction Co. was awarded the overall construction management contract for the development of the facility, located on Highway 203 in Madison.

Haine returns — on crutches

By Scott Wuerz
Staff writer

More than a month after he was hit by a car when he was crossing a Springfield street, Madison County State's Attorney Bill Haine is back on the job.

Haine returned to work last week as a result of surgery to repair crushed bones in his leg. He suffered the injury March 8 just before he was to attend a meeting with the State Attorney General.

"I walking down the street thinking about the meeting and I tried to cross," Haine said. "I learned a valuable lesson. I should have been in the crosswalk."

Haine said in addition to his leg injury, which required a bone graft from his hip to repair, he suffered minor injuries to his shoulder and wrist.

"I was walking down the street one minute, and the next I was on the hood of a '79 Mercury," Haine said.

While undergoing six weeks of intensive physical therapy during which he was confined to a wheelchair, Haine could only keep contact with his office by phone or by courier, which tested his patience.

"It was very frustrating (not to be able to be in the office) because I'm a very active person," he said.

Another thing Haine said he learned is the value of the services the Madison County Transit Authority offers to disabled riders.

"What happened to me is a temporary inconvenience, but it has helped me gain respect for the courage and stamina of people who are permanently physically challenged," Haine said. "Soon, this will be a distant, unpleasant memory for me, but other people rely on this type of service every day."

"I commend (Madison County Board Chairman) Nelson Hagmann on the county's transportation service," Haine said. "It's a wonderful service they provide, with wonderful people."

Haine said both of his parents use the service nearly every day, but still he took it for granted until he tried it for himself.

While he has doctor's approval to return to work, Haine is not completely recovered from his injuries and is on crutches, State's Attorney's office spokesman Mark Von Nida said.



(Staff photo by SCOTT WUERZ)
Madison County State's Attorney Bill Haine returned to work on crutches last week for the first time since he was hit by a car in March in Springfield.

Vest fraud case may go to jury next week

EAST ST. LOUIS — A federal jury may begin deliberating next week on the fate of Alton physician Thomas Bruce Vest, who is accused of mail fraud.

Vest, owner of the Doctor's Clinic in Alton, took the witness stand for the fourth day Tuesday to defend himself against charges that he fraudulently billed Medicare and private insurance companies for unnecessary patient tests.

Vest, testifying about a specific patient, claimed that a series of tests he ran in May 1990 were necessary because of the patient's ailments. He acknowledged he performed several magnetic resonance imaging tests and a brain scan to determine the root of the patient's pain.

"He was having pain around his abdomen, and there are quite

a few nerves in that area," Vest said. "In order to evaluate the abdomen, the test was essential to determine if there was disease in that area."

Vest also displayed X-rays to explain his procedures.

When questioned by his attorney, Anthony Marrrese of Edwardsville, Vest said he called the patient back to the clinic to run more tests because the patient was still complaining of pain.

"He was still experiencing pain," Vest said. "He complained of other symptoms."

He also said some tests were necessary because the patient complained of dizziness, lightheadedness and vertigo. The tests were necessary to rule out certain diseases, he said.

— From the Alton Telegraph

16-year-old charged in rape

A 16-year old Venice youth accused of raping a 13-year-old girl at gunpoint has been charged as an adult by the Madison County State's Attorney's office.

Myreon James, 16, of the 1100 block of Douglas Street, Venice, was charged Monday with two counts of aggravated criminal sexual assault, according to Mark Von Nida, a spokesman for the state's attorney's office.

James was in custody Monday at the juvenile detention facility in Edwardsville.

James was charged as an adult because a firearm was used during the assault, according to Von Nida. That also makes the charges Class X felonies.

The alleged rape was reported to the Madison police department late Saturday evening by the victim and her mother, and was referred to the Venice police department.

According to reports, the rape reportedly occurred at about 9 a.m. Saturday at the suspect's home in the 1100 block of Douglas Street. Both victim and suspect had apparently attended a party, according to police.

The suspect allegedly demanded sex from the girl, who reportedly told him no.

The suspect then allegedly used a silver, small-caliber pistol to force the girl to have sex with him. The girl sustained other minor injuries during the assault.

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'Turning garbage into money'

County official calls clean merf efficient, profitable

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

Proponents of a proposed "clean" materials recovery facility for Madison County say that Granite City leaders who inspected a similar facility in Florida last week "missed the point."

Granite City aldermen Bob Shipley and Kim Affolter said last week they were unimpressed with the Resource Recovery Systems clean merf in Sarasota, Florida. They were particularly disappointed that the facility was anything but clean.

But Joe Parente, administrator of the county's building, zoning and environmental department, said cleanliness of the plant was not the point.

"They said they were disturbed by the cleanliness. They missed the point," Parente said.

"Sure, the floor needed to be swept. But these are industrial operations and they get dirty. We were disappointed that they didn't have the place cleaned up."

"But what was more important, I think, is the extremely efficient way the merf operates," Parente said. "They were turning a mountain of garbage into money."

RRS has been chosen by county officials to build a clean merf in Madison County. The city officials traveled to Florida to view the RRS facility there at the request of county officials.

The county is asking city leaders to contractually require garbage haulers to take pre-sorted residential recyclable materials from the curb to the proposed county clean merf.

Both Shipley and Affolter also visited a "dirty" merf in Ohio last month. Norton

"We were disappointed that they didn't have the place cleaned up. But what was more important, I think, is the extremely efficient way the merf operates."

— Joe Parente

Environmental, of Independence, Ohio, has bucked the county and proposed building a mixed-waste facility in Wood River that would accept all residential garbage and then pull recyclable materials from the waste stream. Norton is asking for a commitment from Granite City and Alton.

Affolter and Shipley both said they were impressed with the cleanliness and efficiency of the Norton facility in Ohio, which is owned by Medina County but Norton built and operates.

Affolter and Shipley said that many of the recyclable materials packaged at the RRS plant for resale to recycling markets appeared to be contaminated. Affolter returned with photographs of electrical junction boxes covered with trash that she said she took at the RRS plant in Florida.

But Parente said only 3 percent of the separated recyclables that come into the RRS plant in Florida are rejected and

eventually sent to landfills.

The RRS facility recycles 150 tons of 23 different materials each day, according to RRS vice president John Schall.

Parente said that RRS is projecting \$4 million in annual sales for its operation in Sarasota.

The need for a merf in the county is the result of a state law requiring all counties to divert at least 25 percent of the waste stream from landfills by July 1996.

"RRS has an overall recycling rate of 48 percent," Parente said.

"We think this proposal is the best one for the county and hope that city officials will agree."

The county has promised 10 years of no tipping charges on recyclable materials to all cities who sign on with its plan. The county will receive \$15.25 per ton from RRS and then rebate the savings to the participating cities, Parente said. He said that the county plan, when combined with a composting program, can meet the state mandate.

Perez estimates that tipping fees at Norton's proposed mixed-waste merf will be about double those at area landfills. He said Norton is diverting more than 80 percent of the total waste stream from landfills in Medina County, Ohio, where Norton operates a new garbage contract. The city's current contract — which negotiations can extend — expires this summer.

Both Parente and Perez estimate that residential garbage rates will increase by about \$2 per household under the respective plans. Granite City is currently in the process of composing bid specifications for a new garbage contract. The city's current contract — which negotiations can extend — expires this summer.

Superintendent's hiring in final stage

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Negotiations between the Madison School District and Gary Allison, the district's choice for superintendent, are in the final stages.

Superintendent Ken Miller said lawyers have finished a rough draft of the contract, and both sides are looking it over.

Allison, 46, director of finance for the Cahokia School District, said he has not seen the contract yet, but believes there will be no problems.

On Monday, the Madison board voted 4-3 to hire Allison over two other candidates within the district. The board members who opposed the hire wanted to stay within the district.

Miller said formal action may be taken at the next board meeting.

The board had been searching for a new superintendent since Miller announced his resignation in March. Miller, who served as superintendent since September, is returning to the Roxana School District.

Six finalists were interviewed by the board of those, two finalists and an alternate were picked last week.

Board President John Hamm

said Monday one of the reasons Allison was picked because of his strong background in finance.

Allison has been director of business and operations in Cahokia since November 1988, and served as business manager at East Alton-Wood River High School from September 1982 to October 1988.

Allison received his bachelor's degree in special education from SIUE in 1971. He went on to get a Master's in business administration in 1980 and a doctorate in 1993.

He taught at St. Boniface School in Edwardsville from 1971-1977. Mamie Stookley School for the Developmentally Disabled in Belleville from 1977-78; as business services coordinator for the Belleville Area Special Education District from 1978-80; and was a program monitor/supervisor with the Southern Illinois Regional Special Education Association.

Allison pointed out that finances were important to every school district, and said he was looking forward to coming to Madison.

"I've known the current superintendent for some time, and it seemed like an interesting school district," he said.

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Yard waste pickup may be free

The vice president of an Ohio company says that Granite City will have no yard waste disposal problem if its company builds a mixed-waste materials recovery facility in Madison County.

"If we had the plant there, we would take the yard waste for free," said Louis Perez, vice president of marketing for Norton Environmental.

Norton has proposed building a "dirty" merf in Madison County that would include a composting site where residents and businesses could deposit leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste at no charge.

"We have a whole concept to

deal with the entire waste stream — not just a part of it," Perez said.

The problem with community compost facilities, Perez said, is that they often go unattended and begin to stink as the material decomposes.

THE LAW AND YOU

By RICK REED
Attorney At Law

Frequently individuals who are having financial problems consider bankruptcy as a solution to their situation. Many people who come to this office indicate that they have a decent income, but they are not able to pay their bills as they come due. In many cases, this is because the debtor has accumulated medical bills without insurance coverage. In other situations, the individual sometimes has large balances on various charge accounts which he is unable to pay. In any event, the question ultimately arises as to whether it is in the person's best interest to actually file bankruptcy.

What test should be used by the individual to determine whether he should file bankruptcy to provide relief from his indebtedness? The first thing that must be realized is that there are two different types of bankruptcies. There is a Chapter 7 bankruptcy, which is also known as a Straight Bankruptcy, that permits a person to discharge certain debts. There is also a Chapter 13 bankruptcy, which is also known as a Wage Earner Plan. This plan permits a person to repay all or part of his debts under the protection of the Bankruptcy Court.

One way for the individual to possibly avoid bankruptcy is to obtain a second job to help pay off the creditors. If the person is married, perhaps the spouse can obtain a job outside the home to assist in paying the bills. Another alternative to bankruptcy involves contacting the creditors and asking them all to reduce their bills. In certain instances, all the creditors may agree to take "fifty cents on the dollar" rather than have the entire bill discharged in bankruptcy.

In all of these alternatives fail, the individual probably should consult with an attorney and make a decision as to whether bankruptcy is in his best interest. Ultimately, the decision should probably be made based on whether the debtor can remove himself from his present financial situation through his own efforts.

If he cannot, then he may need the protection of the Bankruptcy Court to keep the creditors from harassing him and suing him. Whether he files a Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 Bankruptcy, from the time he files it no creditor can call him, write to him, sue him, or garnish his wages. Furthermore, a Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 Bankruptcy both stop mortgage foreclosures and attempts to repossess vehicles.

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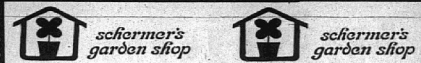
Rabies clinics here Saturday

A rabies clinic will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the Nameoki Township Garage, Highway 162, and 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Pontoon Beach Police Department, Highway 111. Due to rain, a recent rabies clinic that had been canceled has been rescheduled for 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 3, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 4225 Old Alton Road, Granite City. For all Granite City residents, the cost is \$7.

Moose Lodge hosting dance

The Granite City Moose Lodge will host a "fellowship dance" from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, May 13, at the Moose Lodge, 19th Street at the viaduct.

The Still Water Band will provide the music. A donation of \$3 per person will be taken. Tickets can be obtained at the door or at the Moose Lodge.



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Opinion

In bombing aftermath Reason gets lost in rhetoric

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Apparently I am a political extremist, speaking around hell-bent on the destruction of the country.

I am, you see, a white male with a conservative political philosophy, and a member of the National Rifle Association to boot.

Oh, the shame.

Since the Oklahoma bombing, there has been a steady stream of abuse poured on my kind from nitwits who can't tell the difference between a legitimate political argument and the rantings of psychopathic loonies.

While it is important that someone try to understand why people would be driven to such actions, most of the people I know only want the terrorists — and that's what the bombers are — dead. The rest can't quite bring themselves to support the death penalty but would still like to see the culprits thrown down a large hole.

This is the wild course that people responsible for an incredibly horrible, stupid act pay for it.

However, in all the political fallout from the bombing, many have branded conservatives as revolutionaries and pro-gun supporters have been tied to groups whose philosophy goes far beyond the gun issue.

The latest salvo was the recent attack by opponents of a concealed-weapons bill making its way through the U.S. Senate, when opponents tried to form a symbolic link between the NRA and militia groups.

While I'm sure there are some people on both sides of the issue who are actually using facts in their arguments, it seems to me that the debate has been captured by extremists on both sides.

Opponents argue that allowing citizens to carry handguns will result in a "Wild West" repeat, and all the lunatics will be packing heat.

However, nobody has ever produced any real facts to support the Wild West theory — and let's face it — most of the lunatics have already armed themselves away.

On the other side, the extreme pro-gun militia types have even more interesting theories, many of which would be hilarious if these people were not so well-armed.

I especially like the theory that the United Nations are about to invade and take away our guns.

The truth is, with the

Scott Cousins

exception of the British and French troops (when they have intelligent leadership), a typical American quelling club could probably defeat a U.N. peacekeeping force. And even the British troops can't even keep Serbians, Bosnians and Croatians from stealing back their tanks and artillery pieces, so they would probably have a terrible time holding on to 200 million rifles and shotguns.

So I just can't see the Brits — who have a horrible track record for invading this continent anyway — barging in and taking my squirrel gun.

But most Americans — liberal and conservative — fall somewhere in between the extreme philosophies, and that is something both sides tend to forget about the other.

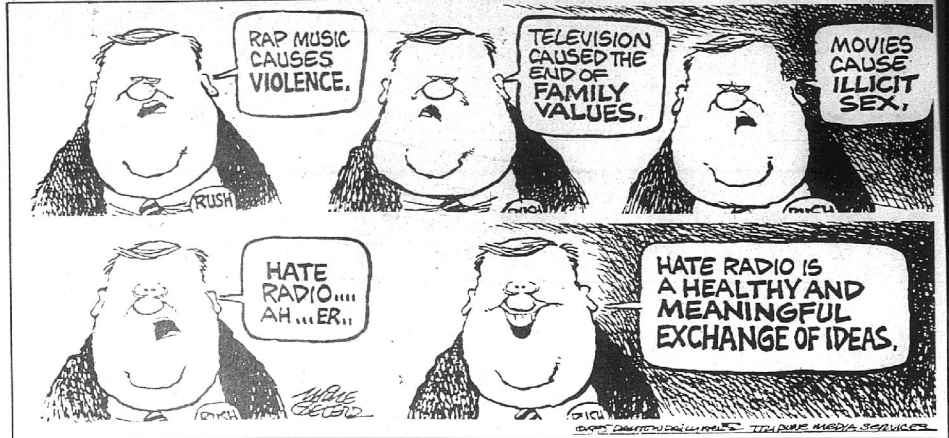
Personally, I have never conspired to transport and use explosives — except for the time in high school my friend Bruce and I went to Missouri and bought bottle rockets.

Likewise, although I don't particularly trust the federal government, and when you think of it as a trillion-dollar business which happens to make its money off of money and 2-million member army and nuclear weapons, I don't know any intelligent person who would consider it a "necessary evil" that becomes even more necessary as our society becomes more complex and interconnected.

And while I don't consider the Ruby Weaver incident in Idaho and the siege at Waco part of an evil government conspiracy, the fact that the FBI hostage rescue team sniffer missed his target and killed an unarmed woman holding a baby leads me to believe that the FBI is not perfect.

Because of the events in Oklahoma, there are many issues which need to be discussed, and there are some intelligent people on both sides of the political fence who have important things to say.

But all this will probably be lost in the rhetoric from the idiots on both sides trying to find a group, issue or person to blame for it all.



Kingman really a 'Devine' city

Kingman, Ariz., once was known as a major point on the route of old U.S. Highway 66, which linked the Granite City-Mitchell area to Chicago on the north and Los Angeles on the west.

Nat "King" Cole and others sang of "Route 66," including "Kingman, Barstow and San Bernardino."

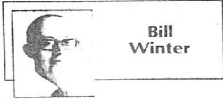
In recent days, Kingman has received much notoriety as one of the home areas of Timothy McVeigh, the alleged bomber who targeted the federal building in Oklahoma City, Okla.

We were in Kingman last fall and noted the extensive preparations there to honor the late Andy Devine, a gifted comedian and actor.

Many Kingman residents undoubtedly hope that historians will remember their city as the home of Devine rather than McVeigh.

Local movie fans of a few years ago recall Andy Devine as the gravel-voiced riding a bicycle companion and sidekick in a number of movie Westerns. He also was featured in many other motion pictures and on nationally-broadcast radio and television programs, including the Jack Benny show.

Andy Devine Days are a big tourist attraction in Kingman each autumn. They include a parade, a rodeo, a softball



Bill Winter

tournament, an off-road race, a reception, a dance, a tennis meet, a gem show and even a dinner at which Andy Awards are presented.

Also held during Andy Devine Days is a "Route 66 Corvette Cruise-In" auto show and barbecue.

Devine was only a year old in 1906 when his family moved to Kingman. His father, Tom Devine, had just bought the historic Beale Hotel downtown and moved from Flagstaff, Ariz., to Kingman with his wife, daughter and two sons.

One of Andy's boyhood pranks was to nail traveling salesman's satchels to the hotel floor. He would then walk in and shout, "Train's leaving."

The salesman would scramble for their bags, only to find them permanently attached to the floor.

He attended Flagstaff Normal School, now Northern Arizona University, studying in football and basketball, and played

professional football with the Los Angeles Angels.

He was given a bit part in a silent movie, "The Collegians," and that started an acting career that spanned 45 years and nearly 400 films.

After talking pictures replaced silent movies, he was featured as a lovable football hero in a 1931 film, "The Spirit of Notre Dame."

In 1933, Devine met his future wife, Dorothy House, on the set of the film "Dr. Bull." Will Rogers introduced them and they were wed several months later. They were married 43 years and raised two sons, Tad and Denny.

His other 1930s movies included "Law and Order," "The Farmer Takes a Wife," "Romeo and Juliet," "Doctor Rhythm" (with Bing Crosby), "Men With Wings" and "Geronimo."

In the 1940s, he appeared in such movies as "Little Old New York," "Buck Benny Rides Again" and "Cahyon Passage."

Some of his best-known films included "The Red Badge of Courage" (1951), "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World" (1963), "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance" (1961) and "How the West Was Won" (1964).

From 1950 to 1957 he played the character "Jingles" opposite Guy Madison in the "Wild Bill

Hickok" TV series.

In the 1970s, Devine starred in "Smoke" on "The Wonderful World of Disney" and provided the voice for Friar Tuck in the Disney cartoon version of "Robin Hood."

Devine also appeared in many stage productions, including the role of the captain in "Showboat."

After he died of a heart attack in 1977, his funeral was attended by such friends as John Wayne, Jimmy Stewart and Lew Ayers.

An Arizona friend, now 90, recalls that Devine was a good man and always came back to Kingman for special events. It's a wonderful thing that a street has been named for him.

Each year, nine Andy Awards are given to recognize the outstanding Kingman citizen, business person, organization, student, commercial property improvement, educator, humanitarian, senior citizen and lifetime achiever.

Award recipients are chosen by a special committee from nominees selected by Kingman residents.

Judging by the manner in which his life has been celebrated annually throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Andy Devine himself, if eligible, might win all nine awards.

Comic strip teaches a serious lesson

An Airedale, two English setters and one Irish, a Brittany and a cocker spaniel, a beagle at least three pointers and five mixed breeds, Chance and Patti, Pat and Teddy, Billy and Squeaker and Grundoon, Spot, Queen, Tony, Lady.

Some names, I've forgotten over the years but the dogs, with the exception of the Airedale who I had bought when I was a year old, I always remember. Notice that even the long-forgotten Airedale is a "who" rather than a "which."

I may give you an inkling of how I view dogs.

In my case, include horses and cats.

What's more, I remember fondly other people's dogs. Mike and Pam's Burke, Jack Ladd's Bro and Annie Pavlova, Jane Stark's Gypsy and Gratia Hall's Tam o' Shanter, my Stuecland cousin's Purple Snyder.

All long gone but etched permanently in memory. No one who's ever had a dog as a family member needs a collar or leash to remind them of a loved pet. Nor will any of us who have been loved by a dog put down forget the genuine sorrow of making that decision.

Which brings us to the recent death of a fictitious dog, "Farley," the English sheepdog of the comic strip "For Better or For Worse."

I'm fond of the strip, work of Canadian Lynn Johnston, and notable because unlike most comic strips, it's a realistic depiction of family life, warts and all, as well as actually being funny.

Dad's a dentist, Mom's a homemaker (yearning to get back to the work world) and both are frequently frustrated, frazzled and exhausted.

Unlike most strips, the kids have grown up.

Their problems and those of Mom and Dad are the very real problems most families have to



Carol Clarkin

deal with, all the way from teenage insecurities and puppy loves to Ellie's weight problems and desire for a career of her own, to the mid-life unplanned pregnancy that resulted in April.

Then, there's Farley, growing old but still randy enough for a little romantic liaison last year with the neighbor's dog, an encounter that resulted in the family's acquisition of one of the affair's resulting litter, a puppy that prefers scratching to barking when he needs out of or into the house.

Then, a few weeks ago, April wandered away from the house during a rainstorm, unnoticed by busy Ellie, fell into a flooding stream and was rescued by Farley, while the puppy ran back home to alert family members (but forgot, something he normally doesn't do).

April and Farley are pulled safely from the stream but his heroic effort is too much for the aging dog and he dies.

Over the years that the strip has run, no one has complained about the material in the story line; not even when Mike, still in high school, learned that one of his best friends is gay.

But apparently Farley's death has brought tons of complaints from fans of the strip, evidently unable to face the reality that dogs, like people, do get old and do die.

A letter to the editor from one area woman really did it for me. She asked how she could explain what happened to Farley, especially when I'm crying and they start crying when they

hear the news? My heart is broken and so are many children's hearts."

Personally, I believe that the death of a pet may well be the best and easiest way to acquaint children with death's inevitability and I think it should be done by a family member.

Don't chicken out and don't lie about it.

Whatever the case may be, tell them truthfully that their pet was struck by a car or put down, mercifully, by the family vet because it was incurably ill and in pain, or simply died in its sleep because it was old.

But, don't say it's "gone to sleep." Call a spade a spade and

say it died.

Let the kids plan a funeral and help them bury their pet in a favorite spot, maybe like Farley, on a hillside under a tree.

Sure, they'll cry, but kids are resilient and there'll be none of those pet later.

Most importantly, they'll have the fun memories of the dog's special character. I know, I've been there.

And I think "For Better or For Worse" is better, as a strip, for Farley's death and the way his family has dealt with it.

He went out a hero and none of them will forget that.

Letters to the editor

Hypocrisy and notification

TO THE EDITOR:

The recent test defeat of the "Parental Notification for an Abortion" on a minor girl is an affront to parents, a hypocrisy to the role of parents in a child's life and a void of common sense.

A minor must have parental consent for a tonsillectomy, an appendectomy, an aspirin from the school nurse and even for ear piercing. But a major medical procedure that has risks both to the girl's physical and emotional well-being should be none of the parent's business. That is hypocrisy at its worst.

Why are pro-life activists (or as they call themselves: pro-choice) so opposed to any and all regulation of their industry? Does it worry them that parents will talk their daughters out of it? They will become the concerned parents that they should be (as so many advocates say parents should be). They will tell her of her two other options, one to keep the child and the other finding people so wanting a child to give it the home and love it needs. (Adoptions are so open now to the meeting of the couple and the biological mother.) If these advocates want to be called pro-choice, then they should tell girl or woman all of her choices.

What is going on in this country? Voices are being raised to want more parental responsibility and yet here in this situation — when a girl faces a major crisis and decision in her

life — pro-choice wants the parents silently absent.

If this is not hypocrisy, I don't know what is.

LAURA VICKERS
Granite City

Emergency aid outstanding

TO THE EDITOR:

Recently, a young person had a serious accident in front of our residence. We and our neighbors called 911 and the police were at the scene immediately, followed by the fire department and the paramedics.

The situation was extremely dangerous situation, with a possibility of fire or explosion, these men worked hard to free the victim from the mangled wreckage.

Their teamwork was absolutely outstanding, and they did their jobs with great expediency and expertise. At all times, they were concerned about the safety of the victim and discharging danger to themselves.

Within a short period of time, they had safely freed the victim, carried out the injured victim, had the car towed away and the broken glass and auto parts cleaned up in fine fashion.

It is certainly a comforting feeling, in our uncertain times nationally, to see our Granite City men perform in such a caring and well-executed fashion.

Gentlemen, we don't tell you often enough how much we appreciate you and congratulations to each and every one of you for a job well done.

KEITH PARKER
Granite City

Granite City Press-Record

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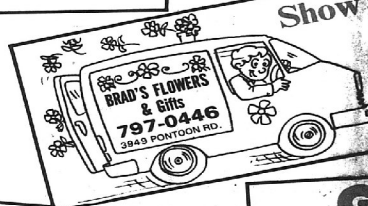
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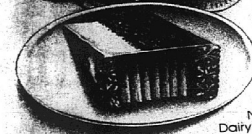
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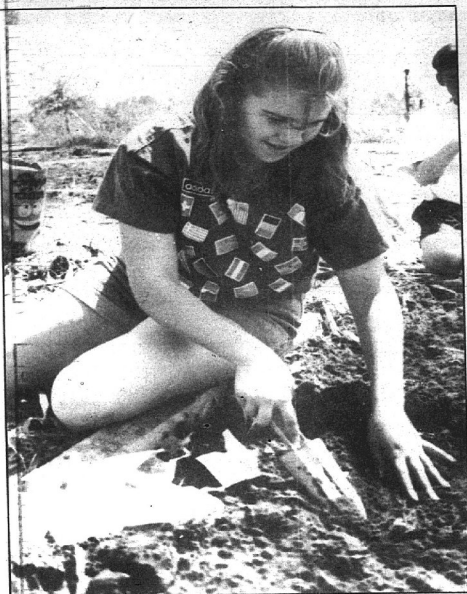
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People



Ashley Barker prepares the soil for planting in a garden plot at the outdoor classroom.



(Staff photos by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Niedringhaus sixth graders Martha Christiansen, left, and Deidre Rosenberg plant perennials at the school district's outdoor classroom.



Teacher Elizabeth Hall puts dirt over the roots of a newly planted Cora Bell.

6th graders tackle gardening

Elizabeth Hall's sixth grade class at Niedringhaus school took an afternoon off from class work to spend the afternoon gardening at the outdoor classroom.

Hall's class had received a \$500 grant from Project Wild, an organization that encourages the protection of wildlife and the environment. With that money the class purchased perennial flowering plants that would attract butterflies and provide them with shelter and food.

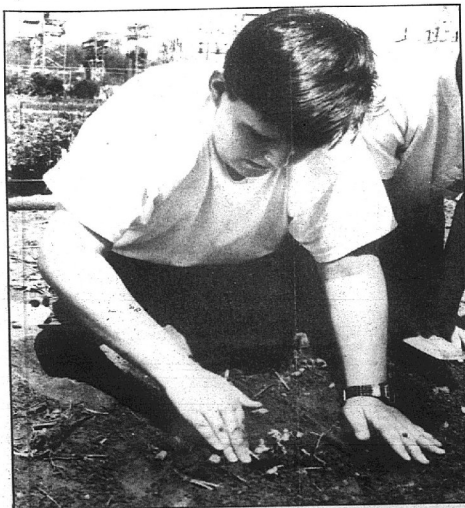
The class took over the area that was formerly the tree nursery to plant its garden; a pond will be added to the center of it. Hall is planning to make this an ongoing class project and hopes to get more grant money to add bird houses to garden.

"Hopefully this will be a good science study for the whole district," Hall said.

Next fall, a new sixth grade class will be releasing butterflies into the garden and will spend time studying the plants as well.



Looking over their planting guide are from left Heather Leisner, Carly Lasiter, Abbey Rushing, Jonathon Ferry and room dad Bruce Rushing.



Kevin Claypool works the soil around a newly planted perennial.



Student Chris Rydgie carefully waters newly planted perennials in his class' butterfly garden.

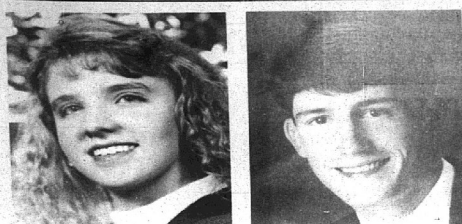


Students work on their garden plots planting perennials for a butterfly garden.



Parent volunteer Melissa Snelson passes out plants to be planted by students.

FAMILY



Suzanne Lerch

Jonathan Reader

Elks honor 2 Teens of Month

Suzanne Elizabeth Lerch and Jonathan Lawrence Reader have been selected by the Granite City Elks Lodge No. 1063 as Teens of the Month of March.

Students are selected by a panel of students and teachers based on leadership, character, citizenship and scholastic ability. They receive a \$50 savings bond and become eligible for "teen of the Year" designation and a \$100 savings bond.

Lerch, a senior at Granite City High School, is the daughter of John "Mark" and Mary Lerch. She has been honored for her achievements in the National Honor Society, Secondary Honors program, National Forensics League, Thespians (Triple Honor) IHSA speech and regional champion, ALPHA Peer Leader, and varsity speech letter.

Her student activities include Speech and Theatre Club, Empathy, individual events (speech team), Homecoming plays ("Meet Me in St. Louis" and "Arsenic and Old Lace"), Spring Musicals ("No, No Nanette" and "A Little Mame"), Winter Play ("Anybody Out There?"), Comed. Play ("Miracle Worker"), Group Interpretation ("Wizard of Oz"), and Science Club.

Reader, a senior, is the son of Larry and Sharon Reader. He has been honored for his achievements in National Honor Society, Belleville Area Youth Salute, Homecoming Court, Illinois State Scholar, nomination for IHSA All-State Academic Team and St. Louis Post-Dispatch Scholar Athlete.

His student activities include soccer, basketball, baseball, Student Council, Varsity Club, Science Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletics, ALPHA Peer Leader, math tutor and chemistry tutor.

BAC fall graduates announced

The following is a list of Belleville Area College students who graduated in the 1994 fall semester.

Granite City:

Perfect grade point (4.0) — Stanley Hecht.

High honors graduate (3.5 to 3.99) — Angela Bigham, Laurie Cotter, Wendy Crane, Deborah Gorschuch, Jason Ivie, Helene Mathenia, Marianna Mims, Laura Mock, Mary Peeler, Jules Ragnetti, Lisa Rees, Barbara Wright.

Honors graduate (3.0 to 3.49) — Michael Andria, Thomas Cox, Ladonna Foote, Trisha Gray, Alfredo Guerrero, Denise Harp, Erin Love, Jeanette Matthews, Lia Mendoza, Lanny Woll, David Wood.

Graduate — David Bassoo, Douglas Crites, Christopher Deruntz, Cheryl Forbes, Agnes Hich, Rachelle Matheny, Barbara

Moore, Jeffery Reedy, James Roberson, Robert Saggio, Donald Schmedeman, Jamie Vaughn, Madison.

Honors graduate (3.0 to 3.49) — Lajuan Jenkins, James Cavar, Ponton Beach, Yvette Hicks, Venice.

Graduate — Sherree Powers.

ISHA honors Ron Goldsmith

Ronald L. Goldsmith received honors of the association, the highest recognition of the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association, for his years of professional service.

Goldsmith is a charter member of the ISHA with more than 30 years of contribution to the field of speech language pathology. He retired in 1993 from Granite City School District 9 and until recently was owner and administrator of the Mississippi Valley Services in

Ron Goldsmith, left, receives his award from Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association President Nancy Dunton.

Edwardsville. In addition to membership in ISHA, Goldsmith has and continues to be an active member of the Southwestern Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The award was presented at ISHA's 35th annual convention in Chicago on Saturday, Feb. 25.

SIUE Scholar Award announced

John Farley, professor of sociology and social work at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, is this year's Outstanding Scholar Award recipient.

The Outstanding Scholar is chosen by a committee of Graduate School faculty to recognize faculty scholarship. The honor bestowed upon Farley is based on his outstanding research in the area of racial housing segregation.

The SIUE professor is recognized as the leading authority on trends and patterns of racial housing segregation in the St. Louis metropolitan area, having conducted extensive research on several facets of housing segregation.

He has extended his research to include the effect of war on race and ethnic relations, the effects of high-density residential settings on children and trends of substance abuse both nationally and in Southwestern Illinois. In a national study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, Farley published important findings showing how racial segregation contributes to minority unemployment.

Farley also conducted a series of surveys on earthquake awareness and preparedness in metropolitan St. Louis and the southeast Missouri area during 1990-93.

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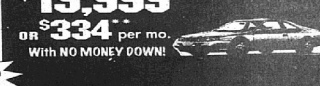
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ISE's area representatives assist prospective host families in the selection of a student who best matches each host family's interests and lifestyle. Students are selected from student applications that include family photos and biographical essays. As there are no "typical" host families, ISE places students with large and small families, single parents, single persons and retired couples. While living with you, a student attends the local high school and is expected to bear his or her share of household responsibilities. The length of stay can range from six months to a full year, depending on your wishes.

If you are interested in learning more about ISE's student programs, or becoming an area representative, call ISE, toll-free at 1-800-233-4678.

Screening clinic held for children

A free screening clinic was recently held at the Jersey Community Hospital. Forty children from various Illinois counties were referred to the St. Louis Unit of the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children.

Sixty-two children were screened by the doctors for such conditions as club foot, scoliosis, bowed legs, spina bifida, missing limbs, hand and back problems and problems associated with burns. Patients came from as far as Belleville and Collinsville. "The clinic was the biggest one ever held in Southern Illinois," said Gerald Baker, vice president of the El Kazam Shrine Club of Jersey, Greene and Calhoun counties.

Two Shrine clowns entertained the kids waiting to see the doctors. Shriners and wives served doughnuts, cookies and drinks, which were all donated, Baker said.



(Photo by PHILIP WALKER)
At the AMVETS and Auxiliary Post 51 awards are, from left in the front row, Kristen Orsborn, essay winner, and Elizabeth Dochwat, poster winner; back row from left are: Harold Siebert, AMVETS Post 51 commander; Chris Janek, essay winner; Jane Varner, AMVETS Post 51 Auxiliary president; and Betty Wilkins, Americanism chairman.

\$100,000 fund campaign under way for IMPACT

ALTON — A fund-raising campaign could have a major impact on IMPACT Inc. Officials said they hope to raise \$100,000 to help the agency that helps people with disabilities cope in a world that's becoming increasingly accessible to them.

"Since we have been here, this area is much more welcoming (to the disabled) than it was 10 years ago," IMPACT Director and founding member Dick Goodwin said. "We have really tried to create a more open society for people with all disabilities."

IMPACT, which began operating in 1986, offers peer counseling, information, independent living skills training and support groups. IMPACT's original small office at Alton Plaza was destroyed in a fire in 1986, and the agency moved to new digs at 2735 E. Broadway, where it quadrupled its working space to 12,000 square feet.

A successful fund-raising campaign would allow IMPACT to pay off its mortgage, purchase energy-efficient windows, pave the gravel parking lot and get a head start on paying for a new roof.

Donations may be sent to IMPACT at the Broadway address.

Several local governments have taken advantage of IMPACT's custom-designed consultations concerning complying with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

"We've been very helpful in finding money for modifications like curb cuts and elevators," Goodwin said. "Those things can be very expensive."

More than 1,000 people with disabilities have benefited directly from IMPACT's long-term services, not including the thousands of family members and friends who are helped by the agency's support groups.

Although IMPACT's coverage area is wide, encompassing Madison, Jersey, Calhoun, Greene, Macoupin and Bond counties, Goodwin said if there's a need somewhere else, IMPACT employees will answer the call. "Sometimes we've gone beyond that (range), if we get calls from individuals that no other service is available to

them," he said. Goodwin said future plans are to expand the disability awareness programs in area schools and to offer more GED classes so clients will be encouraged to become more involved in community activities.

"We're finding out that (disabled) people are more out in the community now because they are more capable of participating," he said. "It enriches every body's life when everyone can get out there and do things."

— From the Alton Telegraph

Poster, essay contest winners named

Commander Harold Siebert and President Jane Varner, AMVETS Post 51 and Auxiliary, presented \$50 savings bonds to winners of an essay and poster contest for students in the Granite City area.

This year's theme was "Why, Where and When Do We Salute The American Flag?" The essay contest was for students in sixth, ninth and 11th-12th grades. The poster contest was for fifth grade students.

Rules, as designated by the national and Department of Illinois AMVETS and Auxiliary,

were sent to all schools in the Granite City area by Americanism Chairman, Betty Wilkins. AMVETS Auxiliary 51 officers judged 100 essays and posters from six schools.

The winners will be entered in the Department of Illinois AMVETS and Auxiliary contest, which will be judged in June. If the winner is a Department winner, another savings bond is awarded and their essay or poster will then be entered and judged at the National Convention of AMVETS and Auxiliary in August. Scholarships and sav-

ings bonds will be awarded to National winners.

Winner of the fifth grade poster contest was Elizabeth Dochwat, a student from Holy Family School. Winner of the sixth grade essay with 250 words or less was Kristen Orsborn, a student from Frohardt School. Winner of the 11-12th grade essay with 500 words or less was Chris Janek, a senior at Granite City High School. There were no entries from ninth grade students.

Poetry contest has \$1,000 prize

A \$1,000 grand prize is being offered in a poetry contest sponsored by Hollywood's Famous Poets Society.

The free contest is open to everyone in the Granite City area. There are 25 prizes in all, worth more than \$2,500.

"Illinois has produced great poets over the years," said Martha French, poets' editor. "I expect this contest to yield exciting discoveries."

The deadline for entering is June 10. Winners will be announced July 1 when all prizes will be awarded and a winner's list sent to all entrants.

To enter, send one poem, 21 lines or less, to: Free Poetry Contest, 795 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 730, Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

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FAMILY



Dustin and
Tonya Horn
Horn-
Geske

Tonya Lynn Geske and Dustin John Horn were married April 9, 1995, at St. John Lutheran Church, Granite City, by the Rev. Anthony Cook.

The bride is the daughter of Mike and Phyllis Geske of Granite City. A 1988 graduate of Granite City High School, she graduated in 1991 from Belleville Area College and is employed with Famous Barr in Alton as a sales clerk in the women's fragrance department.

The groom is the son of Gary and Rene Horn of Edwardsville and Kim Horn of Alpharetta, Ga. A 1991 graduate of Granite City High School, he attended Eastern Illinois University and Belleville Area College and is stationed in Ainsbach, Germany, with the United States Army.

Sheila Bates of Brighton, cousin of the bride, was the maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Dawn Horn, sister of the groom; Karen Geske, sister-in-law of the bride; Lynell Porter and Lisa Beutzel. The junior bridesmaid was Amber Bates, cousin of the bride.

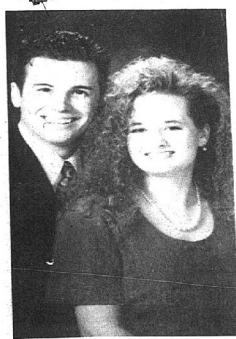
Scott Miller of Fort Benning, Ga., brother of the groom, was the best man. The groomsmen were Jeff Miller, brother of the groom; Mike Geske, brother of the bride; Steve Geske, brother of the bride; and Pat Staggs.

The flower girl was Shelby Geske, niece of the bride. The ringbearer was Ryan Horn, nephew of the groom.

The ushers were Brian Bates of Brighton, cousin of the bride, and Brett Smith of Granite City.

A reception was held at the Madison AMVETS Hall.

Following a honeymoon in Orlando and Tampa, Fla., the groom returned to Germany, where the bride was to join him.



Mary Hopkins
and Brad Dickey
Hopkins-
Dickey

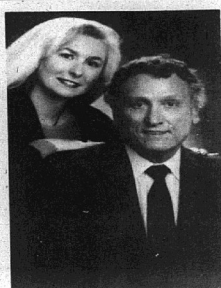
Mary Hopkins, daughter of the Rev. Michael and Loretta Hopkins of Granite City, and Brad Dickey, son of Dale and Betty Dickey of Granite City, have announced their engagement.

Hopkins, of Granite City, is a 1991 graduate of Flowing Wells High School in Tucson, Ariz. She is now in school at Central Bible College majoring in elementary education and is employed with the Central Bible College Security Office in Springfield, Mo., as a secretary.

Dickey is a 1992 graduate of Christian Liberty Academy and currently a sophomore at Central Bible College. He is employed with the Central Bible College Maintenance Department as a maintenance engineer.

A May 13 wedding at City Temple Assembly of God in Granite City is planned.

IT PAYS TO READ THE
JOURNAL CLASSIFIEDS!



Rebecca Randall
and William Schooley
Randall-
Schooley

Rebecca J. Randall, daughter of Alderman Foster L. Frederick of Granite City and the late Dorothy L. Frederick, and William W. Schooley Jr., son of the late William W. Schooley Sr. and Martha Lengyel, have announced their engagement.

Randall, of Granite City, is a 1980 high school graduate. She attended Belleville Area College studying secretarial science.

Schooley, also of Granite City, is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He graduated in 1981 from St. Louis University School of Law and is an attorney at law.

A July 1 wedding at Tri-City Park Tabernacle Church in Granite City is being planned.

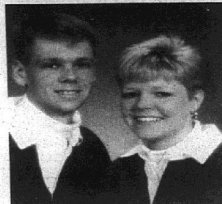
Robinson- Minks

Sallie Ann Robinson, daughter of Carl Robinson of Granite City, and Ronald Allen Minks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Minks of Pilot Knob, Mo., have announced their engagement.

Robinson, a graduate of Granite City High School, is currently serving in the Air Force stationed at Dover Air Force Base in Dover, Del.

Minks, a graduate of Arcadia Valley High School, is also serving in the Air Force at Dover AFB.

A Sept. 23 wedding is planned.



Sallie Robinson
and Ronald Minks

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Gina Carter honored with bridal shower

Gina Carter was honored with a bridal shower on April 30 given by her sister, Leah Carpenter, and her aunt, Kathy Tatum. It was held in the home of her aunt, which was decorated in the bridal color of lavender. A cake, made by the bride's mother, was the centerpiece for the refreshment table.

Games were played with prizes being won by those present. Carter then opened her gifts with assistance from her wedding party. Refreshments were served to Joyce Sagraves, the bride's mother; Mildred Corey, the bride's grandmother; Tara and Heather Chapman; Vicki Cook; Marsha and Brooke Gutterman; Debby Schalk; Margaret Lewis; G.G. Skipper; Janice Kamacho; Minnie Kamacho; Cecelia Kamacho; Michelle and Courtney Barbarotto; Ginger Hackney; Sharline Hill; Gevess Baxter; Valerie, Sherri and Cindy Grzywaz; Christy Carpenter; Lee and Diane Powell; Tisha Sloan; Alisa Thompson; Rose Hildreth; Donna Hartridge; Paula Carter and Shelly Strawbridge.

Carter will become the bride of Dennis Hill on June 10.

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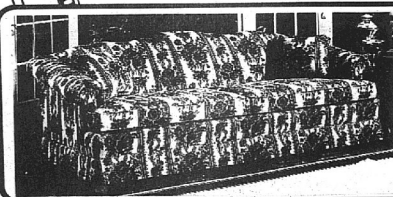
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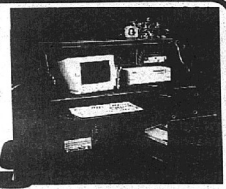


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Art Voellinger

March Madness in IHSA decision

You know what March Madness is? That's the Illinois High School Association's decision to move the boys Class A and AA basketball tournaments from Champaign to Peoria.

No, I'm not upset because of nostalgia connected with Champaign hosting the state finals since 1919. I just can't figure out why the IHSA did not try to please more than one bidder for the finals and give Peoria the AA tourney and Bloomington the Class A event.

MAYBE THE BID was a two-way deal — meaning whoever won in the race of Champaign, Peoria and Bloomington got both tourneys. But you must remember the IHSA is the same group that didn't hold a Class A team wrestling final this year. The association can do just about whatever it wants.

For persons attending the boys finals in recent years, it has been obvious the Class A affair well attended by the small communities throughout the state. However, the Class AA tourney has seen attendance slip while the large schools from the north and Chicago dominate. Wouldn't it make sense to put the small schools at more centrally located Bloomington and the big boys at Peoria, which is closer to Chicago?

ACCORDING TO ONE report, the tournaments would have been worth an estimated \$22 million to a local economy had that city won the bid.

That estimate seems exaggerated, but even with 5,000 fewer seats than the Assembly Hall in Champaign (nearly 16,000 capacity), the Peoria Civic Center stands to profit.

Peoria Manual won the Class AA title in each of the past two seasons and will generate interest in the tourney even if it doesn't advance to a possible three-peat.

How did Peoria get the bid? In speaking with Art Kimball, the sportscaster for the IHSA radio network, it appeared the folks in Champaign became a little too snooty for the state association. "They acted like there was no way they could lose the tourneys," said Kimball.

Fact is, the directors of the Assembly Hall were well aware during the March tourneys that other proposals were about to be made. Champaign civic leaders launched a petition drive during the state tourneys last March, but it was too little, too late. While higher hotel and motel room rates were pointed to as a problem at Champaign, the IHSA cost to use the Assembly Hall was at the crux of the matter.

NOTE: Moe Croak of Cahokia is the president of the Illinois State Left-handed Golf Association and is seeking sponsorship for the state lefty-righty tourney scheduled for Aug. 5-6 at Clinton Hall.

"I have played in this tournament since 1971 and am proud to bring it to Southern Illinois since over half of the players in it are from the Southwest Illinois area," said Croak.

The cost for the tournament and a Saturday night dinner at Clinton Hall is \$95, with persons interested in playing or sponsoring urged to contact Croak at 37-6510 or by phoning Roger Jensen at 234-6032.

According to Croak, the tourney offers a lefty-righty format to attract more players. "You fight yourself the first day and play for the prizes the second day," said Croak. "The lefty plays each shot out, and this counts toward the lefty part of the tournament."

Fuess avenges earlier loss to GCHS

By Tony Panozzo
Staff writer

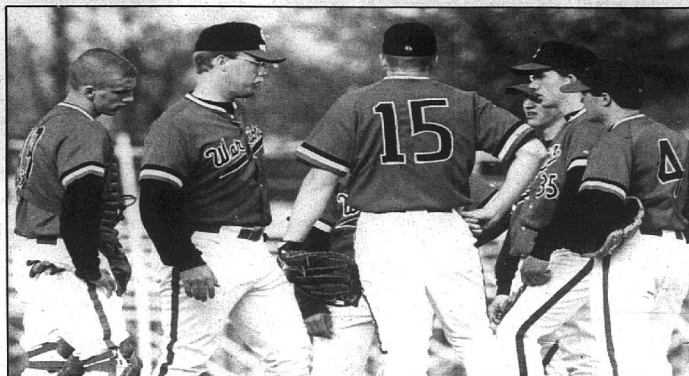
Brian Fuess got it right this time. The Belleville West pitcher outdueled Billy Niepert and defeated the Warriors on his second try this season in Tuesday's 3-0 Southwestern Conference victory for the Maroons.

FUESS, WHO GAVE UP just five hits in a 1-0 loss to Granite City on April 13, blanked the Warriors the second time around on five hits. The Maroons' ace settled down after yielding two hits in the first inning and did not allow a baserunner to reach third base until the seventh.

The Maroons avenged last month's loss and improved to 14-8 overall and 3-3 in the SWC. The Warriors dropped to 13-12, 5-2.

Brian Lloyd and Jason Wood accounted for most of the Warriors' offense with two hits apiece. While the Warriors managed a number of line drives and long fly balls, the Maroons' defense came through on several occasions and helped Fuess record the shutout.

The Warriors got consecutive singles from Lloyd and Jason



Daren DePew and the Warriors fell to 5-2 in Southwestern Conference play after Tuesday's 3-0 loss to Belleville West.

Talley in the top of the first, but Fuess got out of the inning with a double play. He then retired 12 of the next 13 hitters.

"I JUST TRIED to keep them off stride and keep them guess-

ing," Fuess said. "They were more aggressive than last time. 'They started off hitting the ball real good and I had to make some pitches to get out of it. I had a good defense behind me today.'"

"They hit him pretty hard, but our defense was there," Belleville West coach Chuck Hasenstab said. "We were in the right places at the right times."

Fuess went the distance and spoiled a strong performance by

Belleville West 3, Granite City 0											
GC	AB	R	H	E	W	W	AB	R	H	E	W
Briggs	2	0	0	0	0	0	Hesse	2	0	0	0
Lloyd	2	0	0	0	0	0	Boeker	2	0	0	0
Talley	2	0	0	0	0	0	Fuess	2	0	0	0
Wood	2	0	0	0	0	0	Boeker	2	0	0	0
Nemeth	2	0	0	0	0	0	Dodd	2	0	0	0
Reliese	1	0	0	0	0	0	Schott	2	0	0	0
Simon	2	0	0	0	0	0	Plator	2	0	0	0
Ervey	2	0	0	0	0	0	Schott	2	0	0	0
Locan	2	0	0	0	0	0	Heger	2	0	0	0
Niepert	2	0	0	0	0	0	Maxim	2	0	0	0
Harper	2	0	0	0	0	0	Maxim	2	0	0	0
Totals	20	0	5	2	0	0	Totals	20	0	0	0

Granite City Fused, 3B - None, HR - None, SH - None
- GC: Wood 2, Logan.

Granite City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Niepert, L.	6	6	3	2	0	2
Belleville, W.	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO

Granite City
Niepert, 1 IP H R E BB SO
Belleville W. 3 IP H R E BB SO
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2B — West Fuess, 3B — None, RF — None, SS — GC, Wood 2, Logan.

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Prep schedule

BB: baseball, SB: softball, BT: boys track, GT: girls track, BGT: boys/girls track, TEN: boys tennis, SOC: girls soccer.

THURSDAY, MAY 11

BB: Granite City at East St. Louis, 4:15
SOC: Belleville West at Civic Memorial, 4:00
SOC: Collinsville at Sacred Heart-Griffin, 5:30
BT: Cahokia Conference Meet at Waterloo, 3:30
BT: MVC Meet at Highland, 4:00
BB: O'Fallon at Cahokia, 4:15
SB: East St. Louis at Granite City, 4:15
SB: Lincoln at O'Fallon, 4:15
TEN: Alhough at Edwardsville, 4:00
SOC: Alhough at Gibault, 4:00
SB: Alhough at Waterloo, 4:30
SB: Freeburg at Valmeyer, 4:30
BB: Alhough at Gibault, 4:30
BB: Belleville East at Alton, 4:15
BT: SVC Meet at Collinsville, 3:30
SB: Belleville West at Collinsville, 4:15
BB: Collinsville at Belleville West, 4:15

MAY 12-13

SOC: Quincy Tourney (Alhough)
TEN: MVC tourney at Wood River
TEN: SVC tourney at Alton
FRIDAY, MAY 12
BB: Roxana at Mascoutah, 4:00
BB: Dupo at Alton, 4:00
BB: Mascoutah at Roxana, 4:00
SB: Mater Dei at Alhough (DHS), 4:00
BB: Alhough at Lincoln, 4:00
BB: Granite City at Belleville East (DHS), 4:00
BT: South Seven Conference Meet at Mount Vernon, 4:00
BB: Freeburg at Sparta, 4:30
SB: Freeburg at Sparta, 4:30
GT: Sectionals (Highland, Marion & Chester)
BB: Belleville West at Salem (DHS), 4:00
SATURDAY, MAY 13
BB: Belleville East vs. Freeburg at Triad, 10:00
BB: Carbondale at Collinsville (DHS), 11:00
BB: Freeburg at Triad, noon
BB: Belleville East at Triad, 2:00
SB: Belleville East at Freeburg, 10:00
SB: Belleville East vs. Triad at Freeburg, 11:30
TEN: South Seven Tourney, TBA
SB: Triad at Freeburg, 1:00
SOC: Springfield at Collinsville, 11:00

SOC: Belleville West at Carbondale, noon
SB: Granite City Tournament
SOC: O'Fallon at Chatham-Glenwood, 10:00
BB: Westlin at Gibault (DHS), 11:00
BB: Alhough vs. Roxana at Saugat (DHS), 11:00
BB: Mount Vernon at Belleville West (DHS), 11:00

MONDAY, MAY 15

TEN: Waterloo at Collinsville, 4:00
SB: Jerseyville at Mascoutah, 4:00
BT: Centralia Freshman, Invitational, 4:00 (Belleville West)
BB: Alhough at Mount Vernon, 4:30
BB: Mascoutah at Jerseyville, 4:00
SB: Cahokia at Belleville East, 4:15
BB: O'Fallon at Freeburg, 4:30
BB: O'Fallon at Belleville West (DHS), 4:00

MAY 15-22

BB: Class A regionals

MAY 16-23

TUESDAY, MAY 16
SB: Belleville East at East St. Louis, 4:15
SOC: Granite City at Belleville West, 4:00
SOC: Alton at Collinsville, 5:30
SB: Granite City at Collinsville, 4:15
SB: Mount Vernon at O'Fallon, 4:30
BB: Waterloo at O'Fallon, 4:30
BB: Collinsville at Granite City, 4:30
SB: Edwardsville at Alhough, 4:00
TEN: Alhough at Granite City, 4:00
SOC: Cahokia at Alhough, 5:00
BB: East St. Louis at Belleville East, 4:15
SB: Belleville West at Alton, 4:15
BB: Alton at Belleville West, 4:15

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

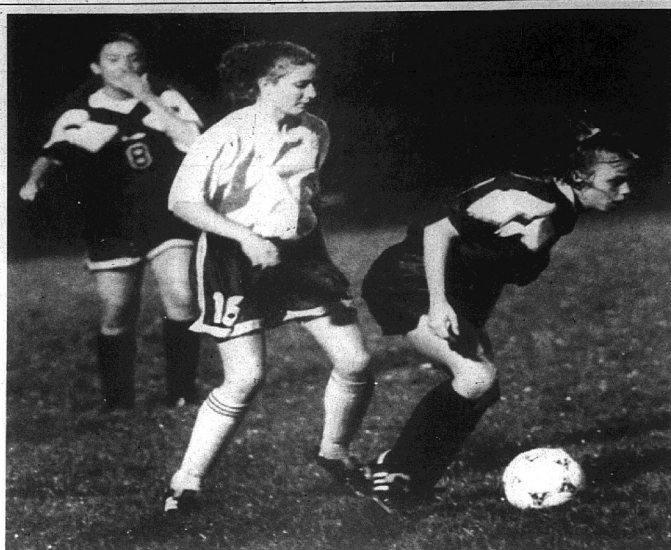
TEN: Roxana at Granite City, 4:00
SB: O'Fallon at Collinsville, 4:15
BB: Collinsville at Edwardsville, 4:00
SOC: O'Fallon at Granite City, 4:30
SB: Mascoutah at Alhough, 4:00
SB: Belleville East at Centralia, 4:00

THURSDAY, MAY 18

SB: Collinsville at Highland, 4:00
SOC: Alhough at Carbondale, 5:00
SOC: Belleville East at Collinsville, 7:00
SOC: Belleville West at Alton, 4:00

MAY 19-20

GT: State meet at Charleston
TEN: Sectionals
FRIDAY, MAY 19
BB: Salem at Granite City, 7:30
BB: Granite City at Cahokia, 4:15



Penny Kreher of the Lady Warriors plays the ball in a driving rainstorm Monday in Collinsville as Lori Wylie of the Lady Kahoks defends. Jamie Dellbringe of Granite City is in the background.

Tornado wins two tourneys

The Tornado, an under-17 boys travel soccer team from Collinsville, captured a pair of championships on consecutive weekends recently.

The Tornado won the eight annual Med-Pay Scholarship Tournament in Springfield Mo. on April 23 and the weekend before captured the title at the 12th annual Andy Waite Easter Classic in Collinsville.

AT THE SCHOLARSHIP Tournament in Springfield, the Tornado topped the Shooting Stars from Fenton, Mo., 2-1 on penalty kicks to win the title game.

In divisional play at Springfield, the Tornado beat Voyagers West of Blue Springs, Mo., 2-1 and Rola S.C. 3-2 before losing 1-0 to Capital City United from Jefferson City, Mo. The Tornado advanced to the title game on total points.

At the Andy Waite Tournament, the Tornado went 5-0 to grab the championship, outscoring the opposition 16-1.

In the championship game, the Tornado topped the Goalbusters 1-0. The Tornado advanced to the title game with a 3-0 victory over the Collinsville United Untouchables in the semifinals.

In divisional play, the Tornado beat Alton Belle 2-0, Milwaukee Sports Club 7-0 and Florissant United 3-1.

In winning the title of the Waite Tournament, the Tornado qualified to take part in the Triple Crown National Youth Finals in Denver in July.

Soccer

(Continued from Page 1B)

Warriors was great a confidence builder. CHS is 8-7-1 and 1-1 in head-to-head competition against Granite City. The Lady Warriors are the top seed in the upcoming sectional and the Lady Kahoks are seeded second.

"I think this win brings us back up to the level we should be at," Waller said. "We should be playing this intense and this well together every game, no matter who we play."

Silva's first big save came

six minutes into the game. Carrie Simpson slipped through the Lady Kahoks' defense all alone against Silviy. The senior goalkeeper came out of the net to cut down the angle as Simpson blasted a low shot toward the right post from about 12 yards away. Silviy knocked down the shot with her right arm and then smothered the ball.

Andrea Froncheck came up with the Lady Kahoks' best scoring opportunity in the first half. Froncheck started the play at the 9:30 mark when her first

shot was pushed out to the left by Granite City goalkeeper Marcie Holsinger. CHS was awarded the corner kick. A floating ball came across the goal mouth that Froncheck headed too high and hit the crossbar on the football goal post.

GRANITE CITY CAME right back when Eryn Ellis broke free and tried beating Silviy on a similar shot that Simpson attempted. Silviy was up to the task. She came out of the net and made the save.

CHS dominated the remainder of the first half and scored the lone tally at 25:20. The goal was set up when Froncheck punched a shot toward the net from about 25 yards away that Holsinger came out to catch Jackie Benesh came racing in from the left wing. That rushed Holsinger, who had the ball deflect off her right to Benesh.

Benesh was to the right of the net. She blasted a shot toward the center of the net that bounced once before Jalinsky caught it with a left foot and

scored. It was Jalinsky's 12th goal of the season.

"It's a typical goal that we run into here where we felt the left back was pushed," Baker said. "It's just aggressive play. Either the official calls it or the player has to do something about it. We had other great opportunities, too."

THE LOSS WAS the second straight shutout for the Lady Warriors. Granite City fell to Chatham Glenwood 1-0 on Saturday.

"(Chatham's) not bad, but we were extra bad," Baker said. "We had a case of the blahs. If we can get this kind of efforts from the girls as we get ready for the playoffs, we'll be happy with that. We've just got to begin scoring."

The Lady Warriors wind up the regular season with a Southwestern Conference game Tuesday at Belleville West and a non-conference game Wednesday at O'Fallon.

Postseason pairings will be announced by the IHSA soon.

Jayvee

(Continued from Page 1B)

freshmen, 10 sophomores and one junior. Last year, the team went undefeated and unbeaten.

"Going in, I didn't think they'd have as strong a year as last year," Kirksey said. "They're having a good season."

The Lady Warriors have been led by a stingy defense and an offense that features sophomore striker Rachel Kennerly and freshman forward Shannon Ellis.

Kennerly has 18 goals and two assists for 38 points in just eight games.

"SHE'S GOT LIGHTNING speed and she's a good finisher," Kirksey said. "She's a goalie's nightmare."

Ellis has totaled 27 points on 11 goals and five assists.

Other top scorers have been sophomore midfielder Kristen Knox, who has six goals and four assists; sophomore striker

Connie Meyers, who has five goals; freshman midfielder Jennifer Willman, who has four goals and two assists; sophomore midfielder Crystal Timmons, who has two goals and four assists; and freshman Jessica Mefford, who has two goals and three assists.

Defensively, the Lady Warriors have shut out each opponent after allowing three goals against Collinsville last month.

The backfield includes Meyers at sweeper, sophomore Rachel Mefford at stopper, and junior Eryn Ellis, sophomore Marcie Meyer and Mandy Robay and freshman Katie Curran.

"THIS TEAM PLAYS solid defensively," Kirksey said. "They basically show the old saying that a good offense is the best defense."

The team alternates two goalkeepers, freshman Shannon Roth

and sophomore Jennifer Martin. Kirksey said Martin made a game-saving stop in the second half Monday against Collinsville.

"She saved the game," Kirksey said. "They had a break away and she broke it up." Two players who began the season with the JV squad, freshman Ismahol Mohsen and sophomore Michelle Montgomery, have also contributed on the varsity level. The Lady Warriors are set to conclude the season

next week and may give the varsity team some additional depth when post-season play begins the following week.

The JV squad has three games left on its schedule. The Lady Warriors are scheduled to play Roxana at home at 4:30 p.m. Monday and will close the season Tuesday at Belleville West and Wednesday at home against O'Fallon.

Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)

"When you don't score, you don't win," said Granite City coach Daron DePew. "We're head coach Gus Lignoul. 'We didn't play that badly; things just didn't go our way.'"

Niepert kept the Warriors close in the third, when Lewis led off with a single and Fues doubled to give the Maroons runners at second and third with one out. Niepert got out of the jam with a fielder's choice and a pop.

"Billy was in some tough situations and worked out of them," DePew said. "He did a nice bit of pitching there."

THE MAROONS made it 2-0 in the fifth when Mark Maxim bunted for a single and reached second on a throwing error by third baseman Brad Ervay. Lewis followed with another bunt single, and Maxim scored on a sacrifice fly by Bocker.

West added an insurance run in the sixth. Ben Dodd led off with a single and Dan Pistor sacrificed pinch-runner Brian Schottel to second with a bunt. With two outs, Heger singled home Schottel for a 3-0 lead.

The Warriors' best chance to score came in the top of the seventh. Wood led off with a single, and Ervay walked with two outs to give Granite City runners at first and second. A double steal moved both runners up, but Fues struck out Niepert looking to end the game.

"WHEN YOU GET ahead of the hitters, you can make them hit your pitches instead of hitting your pitches," Fues said. "This was a really big win for us."

"This is a great win for us," Hasenstab said. "It puts us right in the hunt with Granite City. We started off very rough, but we're coming around. Last week's 11-1 win over Francis Howell North, have played just

four times in the past two weeks and appeared a bit rusty Tuesday. "We've been off and on," DePew said. "I don't remember the last time we took grounders in practice because of the rain."

But that's just an excuse. You have to make the plays." The Warriors, who are in second place in the SVC behind Collinsville (6-0), will look to rebound in a 4:15 p.m. game today at East St. Louis.

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Elks tryouts

The Granite City Elks 1985 girls U-10 soccer team will hold open tryouts for girls born after Aug. 1, 1984 at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 16 at the Belleville Area College campus in Granite City.

All candidates must arrive at least 15 minutes early outfitted in a white shirt and shin guards. Players must also bring a size 4 inflated soccer ball, drinking water and a copy of their birth certificate.

Players currently rostered on a SISL team must obtain written permission from their coach to try out. For more information, call 797-1890.

Coaches needed

Experienced male and female soccer coaches are needed for St. Louis-area select soccer teams. Several positions are available in different age groups for both boys and girls developmental (U-8 through U-10) through U-19.

Candidates should send a mini-resume with soccer experience to: P.O. Box 2285, Florissant, Mo., 63033-2285.

Softball tournaments

Entries are being taken for two ASA Class A and B-C men's slow pitch softball tournaments to be held this month at the Granite City Steel Sports Complex.

Teams are needed for a 15-team Class A double-elimination tournament (five home run limit) and a 15-team Class B-C double elimination tournament (two home run limit). The tournaments will be held May 19-21.

Traveling expenses will be paid to the top four teams. For more information, call Ron Harris at 254-5411, David Peach at 254-3367 or Monte Little at 931-1011.

Park District registration
The Granite City Park District is now taking registration for its Juvenile boys baseball and Juvenile girls softball leagues.

The leagues will start play the first week of June. Registration will be held at the Wilson Park office, 877-3059.

Baseball players needed

The Granite City Chiefs men's baseball team needs players for a 27-and-over league. For more information, call Dennis Gurkin at 877-4594 before 8:30 p.m.

Youth baseball camps
Former St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Greg Maddux will conduct three youth baseball camps this summer: June 12-15, Ballwin; June 19-22, Affton; and June 26-29, Eureka. All the camps will focus on all aspects of the game. Each camp runs from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost is \$125 per person, and that includes a tour of Busch Stadium, T-shirt, prizes, and a meal from McDonald's each day. For more information, call (314) 532-0145.

Busch soccer camps
The Busch Soccer Club will conduct its 1995 summer camp series beginning June 12 at St. Louis Soccer Park. The camp

directors are Denny Vaninger and David Breic. For more information, call (314) 343-8110.

Teams, players needed
The St. Louis International Youth Baseball Association is seeking baseball teams — and individuals — with players born Aug. 1, 1982, or after. Teams will participate in an international tournament in Amsterdam from July 10-17 against teams from Germany, France, Belgium, Austria and the Netherlands. For more information, call Madlynn Levin at (314) 532-5515.

BAC softball camps
Belleville Area College softball coach Kathy Bernal will

hold two camps this summer. The first camp, for fifth-through eighth-graders, will be held from 4-7 p.m., May 30-June 2. The second camp, for ninth-through 12th-graders, will be held from 9 a.m.-noon, June 5-9. Both camps will be held at BAC's Belleville campus, 2500 Carlyle Road.

The cost of the first camp is \$40, the cost of the second camp is \$50. Checks may be made payable to BAC and mailed to: Belleville Area College Business Office, 2500 Carlyle Road, Belleville, Ill., 62221. Enrollment at each camp is limited to 75 participants. Each camper will need a glove, gym or softball shoes and sweat pants or shorts.

For more information, call the

BAC athletic department at 235-2700, extension 271.

Grand Slam camps
Grand Slam is conducting a series of weekly baseball and softball camps at its new indoor location at 280 Vance Road in Valley Park.

The camp dates are June 5-8, June 12-15, June 19-22, June 26-29, July 5-7, July 10-13, July 17-20, July 24-27, July 31-Aug. 3, Aug. 7-10 and Aug. 14-17. There will also be eight outdoor camps at various athletic associations in the St. Louis area.

The camps run from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Thursday at a cost of \$85 per camper. (See BRIEFS, Page 4B)

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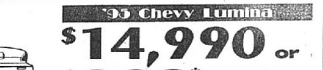
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The Granite City Elks '85 girls select soccer team took second place in the Evansville (Ind.) Red Cross Invitational held April 1-2. The Elks shut out three teams to reach the championship game and fell 5-3 to the EASC Eliminators. Granite City defeated McDonald's of Evansville 3-0, Evansville Elite 8-0 and then the Memphis (Tenn.) Lady Stars 3-0 to advance to the title game. The Elks are coached by Dan Long and assistants Steve Nonn and Rob Paoli. Members of the Granite City Elks '85 girls soccer team are, front row left to right, Brittany Kull, Amanda Smothers, Katelyn Nonn, Tiffany Sanders; middle row, Lindsay Brown, Jessica Cavins, Kelly Jackson, Katie Hubbard, Jamie Prazma, Jackie Kacera; back row, Amy Dix, Julie Dombeck, Summer Moore, Cara Paoli, Tiffany Rath, Tshia Tomlinson.

•Briefs

(Continued from Page 3B)

Team, family and other discounts will apply. Camp directors are Ric Lessmann, head coach at Washington University, Vic Cavellero, head softball coach at Grand Slam, Todd Whaley, head coach at Meramec Community College, Bob Hughes, head coach at St. Louis U., and Jim Turner (Grand Slam academy director. For more information call (314) 861-3313.

ADA golf shootout
The American Diabetes Association and the Falls Golf at Turtle Creek in O'Fallon, Mo. are teaming up for the \$1 million swing for a cure hole-in-one contest, June 1-4.

The qualifying rounds are June 1, noon-3 p.m.; June 2, noon-9 p.m.; June 3, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; and June 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The semi-final round is June 4, 4 p.m.-5 p.m., with the \$1 million hole-in-one final round to follow.

Each attempt is \$1 and is unlimited in the qualifying rounds. For more information and to receive a coupon for five free balls with the purchase of five balls can call the American Diabetes Association at 314-968-3196.

Posthast baseball camps
The J.R. Posthast Baseball Camps will be held this summer at the Highland VFW. The first session is June 12, 13, 15 and 16; the second session is June 19, 20, 22 and 23. The camps run from 8:30 a.m. to noon, but campers may come at 7:30 for extra hitting.

The camps are open to boys ages 8-16; campers are divided into groups by age and ability. Local college and high school coaches will be the instructors. There will be awards and prizes, daily popsicle treats and a free camp T-shirt. The cost is \$38 for one week and \$68 for two weeks, with a \$5 late fee for entries received after April 25. Campers are expected to start preparing for camp two weeks in advance. For more information, call Marcia at 654-2619.

Athletic scholarships
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Box office doldrums

Spring cinema slump has studios looking to summer

Here's one way to see how poorly today's movies are performing: Duck into a local theater. At a prime-time showing of "Tank Girl" four days after its debut, a total of two people bought tickets.

This United Artists adaptation of a futuristic comic book, which earned a paltry \$2 million in its debut weekend, isn't the only new movie that's bombing. March admissions were the worst of the 1990s, and Hollywood can't wait for summer — and its big-budgeted blockbusters — to arrive.

Only two recent movies — Warner Bros.' "Outbreak" and Paramount's "The Brady Bunch Movie" — have done moderately well at the ticket window so far this year.

The new Warner Bros. gorilla movie "Born to Be Wild" played worse than "Tank Girl," bringing in \$1.7 million its first weekend. Other recent washouts include Fox's "Eye Eye, Love," Disney's "The Unbelievable Adventures of Pecos Bill," "Roommates" and "Heavyweights," Paramount's "Losing Isaiah," and TriStar's "The Wayward Woman."

North American ticket sales for March were \$301.3 million, a five-year low and an 11 percent decrease from last March. Year-to-date revenues are \$987 million, down more than 10 percent from last year's \$1.07 billion. The slump looks even worse when slightly higher ticket prices are factored in.

"I don't think it's the economy. I don't think it's the weather. In fact, there's no baseball, so business should be even better than it is," says Mitch Goldmann, whose New Line Cinema is banking on its "Don Juan De Marco" to catch on after its Friday debut. The company's "The Mangler" disappeared days after its March 3 premiere.

Studio executives have looked everywhere to explain the anemic box office. The answer always comes back home: They're making bad movies. Specifically, Hollywood is making bad, cheap movies. The films aren't simply poorly plotted and acted, they look bad. Most of the new movies are aimed at narrow audiences — the bloody horror flick, the flatulence joke comedy, the action-adventure.

A few of these "niche" releases have connected with a small audience. Every Chris Farley fan, for example, will probably see "Tommy Boy." That's not a lot of people, though.

"Tommy Boy" opened last weekend in 2,165 theaters and took in \$8 million. Meanwhile, the critically acclaimed Irish movie "Circle of Friends," a romantic comedy aimed at young

women, is playing in a mere 339 theaters and has earned almost \$5 million in three weeks.

Another bittersweet comedy that also won raves from critics is the Australian movie "Muriel's Wedding." It, too, is in limited release and has made \$7.1 million in four weeks.

With low budgets, both "Circle" and "Muriel's Wedding" could go on to reap a lot more, much as "Four Weddings and a Funeral" did last year. And then there are niche movies that seem to have no niche. Like 1994's "The Mask," "Tank Girl" is based on an obscure comic book. "The Mask" had Jim Carrey and eye-popping special effects. "Tank Girl," a kind of female "Road Warrior" movie, has ... Lori Petty.

Barry London, the distribution chief at Paramount Pictures, where "Tommy Boy" was made, says another part of the problem is that top Academy Award-winner "Forrest Gump" already has earned most of its gross. Last year, many people had not seen "Schindler's List" before it triumphed at the Academy Awards.

"Gump" doesn't have as much left to earn as "Schindler's List" did," London says. That, in turn, hurts the entire market: People aren't going out to see "Forrest Gump" anymore, or anything else.

To save money for the summer, the studios and the independent companies have been releasing a lot of movies for less than \$10 million — a third of the average cost. Some of these modest films have worked in the past, but few are this year. Further more, the companies are spending little money promoting their movies. So the quick vanishing acts are almost preordained.

Movies are very expensive, and studios tend to lump together those with major stars and lots of visual effects and release them at the same time.

Well aware of the spring slump, Disney has moved up several of its releases, including "While You Were Sleeping" starring Sandra Bullock. The movie now will open April 14 instead of May 12.

The other studios will release their biggest films beginning on Memorial Day. The summer roster includes "Batman," "Free Willy" and "Die Hard" sequels, "Beverly Hills Cop 3," Sylvester Stallone's "Judge Dredd," Tom Hanks in "Apollo 13" and Kevin Costner's "Waterworld," the most expensive movie ever made at more than \$150 million.

Last year's summer slump led to an all-time record. With a hiatus spanning this time around, summer 1995 will have to be even better if another record is to fall.

Associated Press

Horoscope

Thursday, May 11
We all wait for days of sweet harmony in relationships — and here one is! Besides a working condition, you feel ready for any job that comes up. It's an ideal day to interview for new jobs, indicate a desire for advancement or talk over partnership matters. Do selling face-to-face and one-to-one — take customers to lunch for the best results.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Impressive effort is the key to success with the boss — go ahead and show 'em what you're made of. Friendly competition is often inspiring to you, and it is now, but romantic rivalry is not fun at all.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
The most exciting and lucky events happen in the practical world of finance, at home or away. You really love and when you're helping others for the pure joy of it. A dream may bring you luck, too!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
A full plate of enjoyable activities creates a need to remind you not to burn the candle at both ends and the middle. Love is exciting, but can get expensive. A good friend has an idea you can't resist.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Gifts and other enjoyable attentions from someone who wants to impress you are fun, but you're too smart to be entirely bowled over. No need to buy the favors you love best — just be your sweet self.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



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Impressive romancing can turn your head — on the other hand, you are sure someone who does a lot of traveling or who is from another country — be realistic. Consider a trip of your own.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 11)
Settling down is on your mind, and you'll be lucky in matters of property ownership all year. What you do on the job in June pays off in October. Learn all you can in July. Start researching financial plans in July, and make key moves in September and December. Good advice is available in August. Partnerships are lucky in October and November.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
It's a lovely time to be a mom — you've been working hard and owe it to yourself to take a breather, right? A past experience plays a role in problem-solving. Tonight, you may have inspiration from the past.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Feel like meeting some new

people or sharing a new experience with your favorite companion? You're right in tune with the times — meetings and gatherings are where opportunities can be found.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Time with your family can be nice or frustrating — concentrate on being a therapeutic influence rather than criticizing. Sometimes, it's tough to have superior insight because you see the flaws.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Romance may be waiting around any corner — a meeting of professional colleagues is the most likely place to be introduced to a wonderful new person from out of town. Opportunity for career gains abounds.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Don't be too eager to take on family problems, as they may not be solved right away. A cloud of misunderstanding surrounds a credit situation, but wait until next week, if possible, to work it out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
New pals and fresh ideas surround you, but be aware that your confidence and popularity easily inspire envy. Get an expert's advice before signing anything. Don't take criticism personally.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
All your hard work is definitely appreciated — more cash is on the way. Be thrifty, and you'll be in a position to take advantage of opportunities down the line. Rich food looks luscious — take care.

Flood of films based on kids' books set

Tom Clancy, John Grisham and Michael Crichton are just the best-seller chasers. Dick King-Smith, Lynne Reid Banks and Frances Hodgson Burnett light up children's imaginations — and that's why Hollywood is banking on a surprising new group of novels this summer.

Amid the season's lucrative cavalcade of bloody action films, inevitable sequels and calculated kiddie fare, no less than five acclaimed children's books are coming to theaters as live-action family movies.

The first such release, "The Little Princess," appears on May 19. It is adapted from Burnett's story about an assured young girl whose world collapses at boarding school. The last summer title is "The Baby-Sitter's Club" (Aug. 18), based on the books by Ann Martin concerning seven girls' adventures.

In between, three other films plucked from bookstore shelves will debut: "Fluke" from the novel by James Herbert about an accident victim who returns to his family as a dog; "The Indian in the Cupboard," adapted from Banks' tale of a three-inch-tall toy Indian who comes to life; and "Babe" based on King-Smith's "Babe: The Gallant Pig," an account of an orphan swine who thinks he's a sheepdog.

"I think it's a good sign kids' movies are based on previously written material because it shows you can do serious movies for families," says just formula movies you make to make money," says director Carlo Carlei, who has spent 12 years bringing "Fluke" to the screen.

"Do you want to just make a movie to squeeze the audience's pockets? Or do you want to communicate some values?" Carlei asks.

Unlike the often morally empty, entertainment-at-all-costs works of Clancy, Grisham, Crichton and their pop fiction peers, popular children's books tend to be guided by a strong moral compass. Scrutiny by parents, educators and critics usually sinks these inferior children's books — outside of harmless gimmicks such as "Where's Waldo?" — that have nothing worthwhile to say.

"The Little Princess" for example, is an allegorical yarn set in the early 1900s India and London about faith, compassion

and forgiveness. Producer Mark Johnson, who has read the book to his 5-year-old daughter, says the book communicates all of those values without being heavy-handed or dull.

"One of the reasons that I liked it so much is that it's a different world and a different time," says Johnson. "And it's about a relationship between a father and his daughter. This is something as a parent I wanted to see."

Adds Carlei about "Fluke": "It was a moral story that was just entertaining and moving. I liked the metaphorical aspect of how a man gets in touch with the meaning of life."

In plot, many of the new children's books are truly discriminating readers — or listeners. If a story and its characters don't undividedly hold their attention, it's on to another book, a pile of toys, a special action figure.

"Very often, when people are writing children's stories, they try to instill it with something that is clear," says Chris Noonan, the director of "Babe."

"This book had a whimsical clarity to it," Noonan said. Like adult science-fiction, children's literature frequently unfolds in an unreal world where anything — from talking pigs to intricate toy figures — is possible. But what is easy to write (and imagine) can be laborious to produce on film.

Noonan spent six years figuring out how to make "Babe" translate from page to screen, and another five months filming it.

"Even though it looks simple, it's incredibly complicated," he says of a movie where more than three-quarters of the dialogue is spoken by pigs, ducks, dogs and sheep. To give the barnyard residents voices, Noonan used high-tech computer effects and a stable of mechanical animals. Some 50 different real pigs were needed to play Babe, because the little pig would stay little for only a few weeks.

For "The Indian in the Cupboard," Paramount Pictures has been replaced by screenwriter Steve Oedekerk, who never has directed a movie. The reason for the change — creative differences.

Associated Press

Some of the best children's

books are disturbing and sad — Both dies in "Charlotte's Web." Hollywood loves happy endings, but the books lead to some unavoidable collisions between faithfulness and box-office calculations.

Johnson reluctantly decided to keep the father alive in "The Little Princess" although he knew he couldn't do it. "I didn't know how I could kill him off," he says contritely. And like "A Little Princess," the action in "The Indian in the Cupboard" has been relocated from Britain to the United States.

Yet no matter how true a filmmaker remains to the source books, children's movies — those with vivid imaginations — are bound to experience a film director's brain. Lynne Reid Banks says this was among her fears in watching her "Indian in the Cupboard" go to Hollywood.

A memorable story, she says, "is part of the trappings of your brain — you have the movie in your mind. And then you go to the movie and say, 'What's this?' and you're lost."

"(The movie) might just wipe out that delicate thing children have created themselves, and I would like to give the home crowd an advantage. If you don't want outsiders to win, you should only allow the people from your particular group to participate.

Another gripe is the registra-

tion procedure at certain trivias. Why, at some events, must the whole team sit in? Or are they worried about trivia-night crashers? Just let the team captains sign in and let everyone else sit down. This would relieve the terrible congestion of people at the front door five minutes before the trivia is about to start. If you are worried that people may be sneaking in without paying, you can go around and check the tables once play begins.

Finally, you should give prizes at first, second, and third-place if you put these on. The prizes, which are often donated by area businesses, need not be elaborate, but merely something to recognize teams for finishing in the top three. Contests which offer only a winner-take-all prize are sure to leave hard feelings. If need be, you should cut down on your door prizes in order to be able to offer something to the second- and third-place squads.

You can take my suggestions to heart or not, but I can assure you I am not the only one who feels this way.

What follows are questions you might hear at a typical trivia night. (The movies) Who played Hopper in "Blazing Saddles"?

ANSWERS: 1. Robert Katt; 2. (literature) Who wrote "Life on the Mississippi"?

3. (music) Who won the 1962 Grammy Award for best new artist?

4. (television) Which year did "Leave It To Beaver" debut on TV?

5. (sports) Which quarterback passed for the most yards in an NFL game?

6. (presidents) What was Grover Cleveland's real first name?

7. (quotations) "What this country needs is a good 5-cent cigar" is a famous quote from which politician?

8. (Missouri) Within five years, when was the University of Missouri established?

9. (business) Before it became the Xerox Corporation, what was that business called?

10. (catchall) In which city was the first McDonald's restaurant located?

Trivia time

Trivia contests can be fun for entire family

By Kevin Carbery
Staff writer

For the uninitiated, trivia nights are events in which teams of people compete against each other to see who can answer the most questions correctly.

Normally, 100 questions will be asked, divided into five categories, but often in categories of 10 questions each. For example, a typical trivia contest would include such categories as movies, music, sports, television, literature and history, plus a few other topics. Usually, the teams finishing first through third win prizes, such as dinners at local restaurants.

I went to my first trivia competition at St. Francis of Assisi parish in Oakville during the mid-1980s and have been participating in and enjoying the trivia since then. Some are good, some are poorly run.

Sometimes, the people putting on the trivia decide they need to put in some localized questions, apparently to give the home crowd an advantage. The way I feel is, if you are going to open up your trivia night to the general public, it is absolutely underhanded to give the home crowd an advantage. If you don't want outsiders to win, you should only allow the people from your particular group to participate.

Another gripe is the registra-

tion procedure at certain trivias. Why, at some events, must the whole team sit in? Or are they worried about trivia-night crashers? Just let the team captains sign in and let everyone else sit down. This would relieve the terrible congestion of people at the front door five minutes before the trivia is about to start. If you are worried that people may be sneaking in without paying, you can go around and check the tables once play begins.

Finally, you should give prizes at first, second, and third-place if you put these on. The prizes, which are often donated by area businesses, need not be elaborate, but merely something to recognize teams for finishing in the top three. Contests which offer only a winner-take-all prize are sure to leave hard feelings. If need be, you should cut down on your door prizes in order to be able to offer something to the second- and third-place squads.

You can take my suggestions to heart or not, but I can assure you I am not the only one who feels this way.

What follows are questions you might hear at a typical trivia night. (The movies) Who played Hopper in "Blazing Saddles"?

ANSWERS: 1. Robert Katt; 2. (literature) Who wrote "Life on the Mississippi"?

3. (music) Who won the 1962 Grammy Award for best new artist?

4. (television) Which year did "Leave It To Beaver" debut on TV?

5. (sports) Which quarterback passed for the most yards in an NFL game?

6. (presidents) What was Grover Cleveland's real first name?

7. (quotations) "What this country needs is a good 5-cent cigar" is a famous quote from which politician?

8. (Missouri) Within five years, when was the University of Missouri established?

9. (business) Before it became the Xerox Corporation, what was that business called?

10. (catchall) In which city was the first McDonald's restaurant located?

Granite City Press-Record, May 11, 1995

10. (catchall) In which city was the first McDonald's restaurant located?

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DINNER (includes Dessert, Coffee and Iced Tea) . . . \$4.50
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Hanscock Village, Granite City • 877-5630 Ends Thursday!
MAN OF HOUSE 7:15
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JURY DUTY
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FRIDAY 7:00, 9:00 SATURDAY 2:00, 4:00, 6:00
SUN - THURS 7:00
STARTS FRIDAY!
VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED
Beware the Children [R]
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Barbara Massey
&
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11:30 am
to
4:00 pm
May 14
Includes:
• Braasted Chicken • Turkey & Dressing • Pepper Pork Loin • Stuffed Peppers • Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • Corn on Cob • Green Beans • Pasta Salad • Salad • Strawberry Shortcake • Italian Bread
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RATES

SUNDAY	10 Words	\$3.80
WED./THURS.	10 Words	\$6.50
3 ISSUES	10 Words	\$9.90
DEADLINES		
SUNDAY	3:00 Friday	
WED./THURS.	4:30 Monday	
ILLINOIS WED.	10:00 Monday	
ILLINOIS SUN.	3:00 Friday	

Transportation	
Hyundai	42
Isuzu	44
Jaguar	48
Jeep	48
Kia	50
Lincoln	52
Mercedes Benz	52
Mitsubishi	54
Nissan/Datsun	56
Porsche	58
Renault	60
Rolls Royce	62
Saab	64
Subaru	66
Toyota	68
Volkswagen	70
Volvo	72
Ward	74
Ward	76
Ward	78
Ward	80
Ward	82
Ward	84
Ward	86

Motorcycles/ATVs	185
Boats/Motors	190
Boat/Canoes/Rentals	195
Boat/Motors	200
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Bed & Breakfast	405
Societies & Lodges	410
Announcements	415
Personal	420
Car & Found	425
Lost & Found	430
Probate Final Notice	435
Probate Court Notice	440
Adoption Notices	445
Legal Notices	450
Assessment Notices	455
Board of Review Changes	460
Assumed Names	465
Claims Notices	470
Divorce Notices	475
Boat Name Changes	480
Change of Name	485
Bids & Proposals	490
Cards of Thanks	495
Masonic Notices	500
In Memoriam	505
Funeral Homes	510
Probate Notice of Letters	515

Services

Accounting/Tax	711
Advertising	715
Alarm Systems	720
Answering Services	725
Antenna Installation	730
Appliance Repair	735
Assessment/Abate	740
Attorneys	745
Automotive Services	750
Bathroom/Refinish	755
Beautician Services	760
Bicycle Repair	765
Blacktop/Paving/Sealing	770
Boat/Motors	775
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114	Resale/Consign. Shops	1721	Maplewood/Rdmg Hgts.
116	Auction/Flea Markets	1722	Clayton/Ladue
118	Air Conditioners/Heating	1723	& vicinity
119	Appliances	1724	Maplewood/St. Louis
120	Classified Flea Market	1725	Creve Coeur/O'Fallon
121	Sanitary Supplies	1726	& vicinity
122	Bicycles	1727	Des Peres
123	Books & Periodicals	1728	Clayton & vicinity
124	Building Materials	1729	Fenton area
125	Business Equip./Equip.	1730	Ferguson & vicinity
126	Camera Equipment	1731	St. Louis
127	Catalogs	1732	Hazelwood
128	Clothing	1733	Jennings & vicinity
129	Computer Equipment	1734	Kirkwood/Webster
130	Maplewood/Rdmg Hgts.	1735	& vicinity
131	Construction Equipment	1736	Ballerwin/Manche
132	Farm Equip./Supplies	1737	Maplewood/Rdmg Hgts.
133	Firewood/Fuel	1738	St. Louis
134	Food/Produce	1739	Midvale/Oakville
135	Furniture/Decorations	1740	& vicinity
136	Handcrafted Items	1741	Normandy & vicinity
137	Health/Fitness	1742	North County
138	Horse & Tack	1743	St. Charles/Glennview
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Candidates should possess a B.S. degree in Marketing or a related field and a strong sales personality. A comprehensive training program leading to a career in outside sales is offered along with a competitive salary and benefit package including a 401K, health insurance, dental and pension.

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REQUIREMENTS: 21 years of age; weight must be in proportion to height; MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: (A) Associates Degree in law enforcement-related studies, or (B) 64 semester hours or the equivalent in undergraduate level courses with an emphasis in law enforcement-related studies, or (C) four years full time employment as a commissioned police officer.

Candidates presently enrolled in a college or university, who will attain minimum educational requirements by the completion of the current school semester, will be permitted to test. The final determination of eligibility requirements will be made by the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners.

Rigid agility and physical testing, extensive aptitude, visual acuity, psychological and background examinations will be required. Probationary period after hiring is 18 months. Residency within Fairview Heights is not required.

APPLICATIONS: By written request to Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 19027 Bunker Road, Fairview Heights, IL 62208; accompanied by a \$10 application fee by check or money order payable to the City of Fairview Heights. Application fee is non-refundable.

(REQUESTS FOR APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED AFTER JUNE 16, 1995)

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Start 5:00am. Gen. Exp. for mail delivery. Call for more information: 314-522-1500 ask for Rick Illinois 618-235-5890 ask for Brad

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